



# Department of Justice

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Southern District of Indiana**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ins/>

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## **INDIANAPOLIS MAN ARRESTED FOR PROVIDING SHOTGUN TO CONVICTED FELON**

*More Results in U.S. Attorney's Violent Crime Initiative*

### **PRESS RELEASE**

INDIANAPOLIS - Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, announced today that Brandon Spears, 31, Indianapolis, was charged with providing a firearm to a convicted felon and attempting to influence a witness, following an investigation by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The complaint alleges that Brandon Spears provided a shotgun to his brother, Shane Spears. Shane Spears is a convicted felon who was charged for illegally possessing that shotgun in April 2011. The complaint also alleges that Brandon Spears attempted to conceal those crimes by getting a witness to falsely claim ownership of the gun.

These latest charges are in keeping with the commitment of the United States Attorney's Office to view gun-related criminal activity in its totality and to vigorously prosecute not only those who illegally possess weapons, but also those who, collaterally, enable, protect and/or encourage the illegal conduct.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Gayle L. Helart, who is prosecuting the case for the government, Spears faces a maximum of 30 years in prison on both charges and a \$250,000 fine on each charge. Following a hearing held on September 9, 2011, Spears was ordered released and to have no contact with anyone who is a witness in this case.

A Complaint is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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